



For Models: NL673K, NL673L, NL673L2, and NL673L3

# **OPERATOR'S MANUAL**

Marine Generators | Marine Diesel Engines | Land-Based Generators













As of January 2008, U.S. EPA regulations require the application of a permanently applied label near the fuel tank fill port for diesel driven equipment. This label is to state:

LOW OR ULTRA LOW SULFUR FUEL ONLY Northern Lights is providing this label for application to the fuel inlet of the fuel supply tank for each engine or generator set. This is to be applied by the installer of the engine or gen set, or by the manufacturer of the equipment that the engine or gen set is installed in. The location of the label must be in clear site of personnel that refill the supply tank. Note: Starting in 2011, the label will state: ULTRA LOW SULFUR ONLY.



Diesel engine exhaust and some of its constituents are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.

Northern Lights

4420 14th Avenue N.W. Seattle, WA 98107 Tel: (206) 789-3880 Fax: (206) 782-5455

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# **OPERATOR'S MANUAL**

for Models

# NL673K, NL673L, NL673L2, and NL673L3

Read this operator's manual thoroughly before starting to operate your equipment. This manual contains information you will need to run and service your new unit.

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#### **Proprietary Information**

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#### Introduction

Servicing of industrial generator sets presents unique problems. In many cases these generators are far from a repair facility. Generators cannot be compared to the servicing of automobiles, trucks or even farm equipment. Failures often occur in remote areas far from competent assistance. Generators can be taxed far more severely than auto or truck engines; therefore, maintenance schedules must be adhered to more strictly. Failures begin with minor problems that are overlooked and become amplified when not corrected during routine maintenance.

As operator, it is your obligation to learn about your equipment and its proper maintenance. This is not a comprehensive technical service manual. Nor will it make the reader into an expert mechanic. Its aim is to aid you in maintaining your unit properly.

#### **Unit Identification**

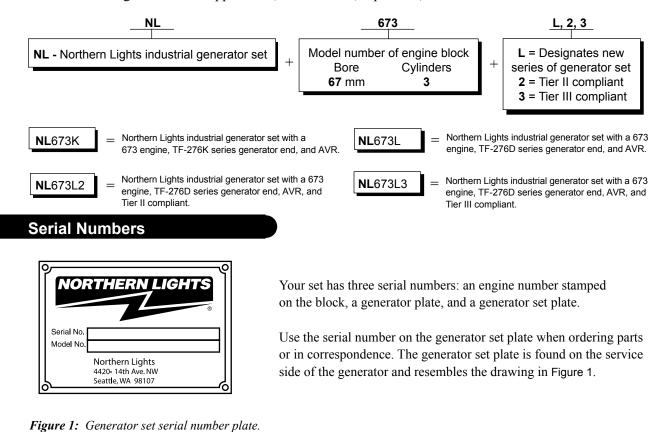
#### **MODELS INCLUDED**

This manual covers the operating instructions for:

NL673K, NL673L, NL673L2, and NL673L3 industrial generator sets.

#### **Model Numbers**

Model numbers give the unit's application, block model, aspiration, and RPM:



A warranty registration certificate is supplied with your set. It entitles the original purchaser of our equipment to a warranty covering material or assembly faults. The extent of coverage is described in the Limited Warranty Statement. We recommend that you study the statement carefully. **NOTE:** If the warranty is to apply, the servicing instructions outlined in this manual must be followed. If further information is needed, please contact an authorized dealer or the factory.

#### Safety Rules



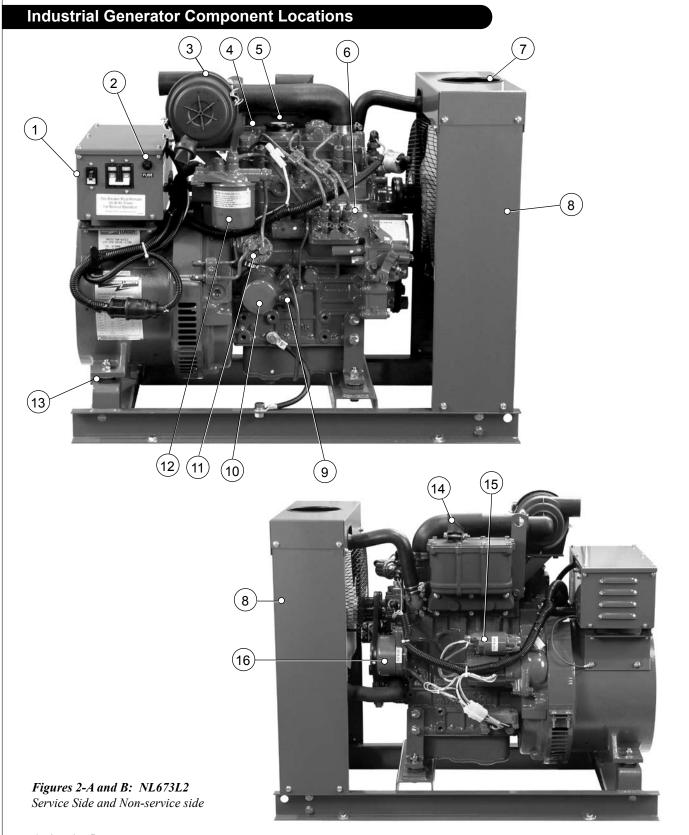
*CAUTION:* Accident reports show that careless use of engines causes a high percentage of accidents. You can avoid accidents by observing these safety rules. Study these rules carefully and enforce them on the job.

- Never leave engine without proper security.
- Turn the coolant tank cap slowly to relieve pressure before removing. Add coolant only when the engine is stopped and cool.
- Mount a fire extinguisher near engine.
- Always disconnect the battery ground strap before making adjustments.
- Operate engines in properly ventilated areas.
- Keep trash and other objects away from engine.
- Escaping fluids under pressure can penetrate your skin. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, not your hands, to search for leaks.
- Avoid wearing loose clothing without a belt when working around engines.
- Do not oil or grease engine while it is running.

- Use caution in handling fuel. Never re-fuel a hot or running engine. Do not smoke while filling fuel tank or servicing fuel system.
- Keep your hands, feet, hair and clothing away from power-driven parts.
- Check for any loose electrical connections or faulty wiring.
- Engines should be operated only by knowledgeable, qualified personnel.
- Look completely around engine to make sure that everything is clear before starting.
- Do not operate an engine that isn't in proper working order. If an unsafe operating condition is noted, tag the set and control panel so others will also know about the problem.
- Provide first aid kits.



CAUTION: This symbol is used throughout this book to alert you to possible danger areas. Please take special notice of these sections.



- 1. Junction Box
- 2. DC Circuit Breaker
- 3. Air Filter
- 4. Crankcase Vent
- 5. Lube Oil Fill
- 6. Injection Pump
- Coolant Fill
   Radiator Shroud
   Dipstick
   Oil Filter
- 10. Oil Filter
- 11. Fuel Lift Pump
- 12. Secondary Fuel Filter
- 13. Vibration Mount
- 14. Exhaust Outlet
- 15. Starter
- 16. Alternator

#### **Control Panel**

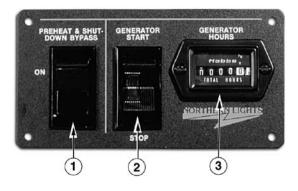


Figure 3: Series 1-B Generator Control Panel

#### 1. PREHEAT/ SHUTDOWN BYPASS SWITCH

This switch serves two functions:

1. Preheats the fuel before beginning the starting process. Press switch for 10-20 seconds before attempting start-up.

2. Bypasses the safety shutdown feature during the starting process. Keep switch engaged while starting engine, and for 2 to 3 seconds afterwards, allowing oil pressure to build beyond the shutdown set point.

*NOTE: Three position Engine Control switches must be in the RUN position during preheating. Preheat switch must be held in ON position during starting.* 

#### 2. ENGINE CONTROL SWITCH

To start the engine, hold this switch in the START position until the engine is running.

After the engine starts, release the switch and it will return to RUN position. To stop the engine, hold the switch in the STOP position.

*NOTE: The rocker switch is used on Series 1 panels only, and has a light that glows when the set is running.* 

#### 3. HOUR METER

Keeps track of engine running time.

#### **Operating Procedures**

#### **BREAK-IN PERIOD**

- 1. The first 100 hours on a new or reconditioned engine are critical to its life and performance.
- 2. Constantly check the engine temperature and oil pressure.
- 3. Oil consumption is greater during break-in as piston rings take time to seat.
- 4. Break-In Oil Changes: Change engine oil and filter at 50 hours. Change oil and filter again at 100 hours (consult Lubricants section for oil recommendation).

#### **Operating Instructions:**

Maintain at least a 75% load on your generator set for the first 100 hours. If this is not possible, maintain no less than a 50% load to ensure proper seating of the piston rings. Vary the load to help seat the rings.

#### **BEFORE STARTING**

1. Check the water level by removing the pressure cap from the expansion tank or radiator. In order to give the cooling water an opportunity to expand, the level should be about 1 in. (2.5 cm) below the filler cap sealing surface when the engine is cold.



#### CAUTION: Use protective clothing and open the filler cap carefully when the engine is warm to prevent burns.

- 2. Check the oil level in the crankcase with the dipstick. The oil level must be in the waffled area on the stick. Never allow the level to go below this area. Always add the same viscosity of oil as is already in the crankcase.
- 3. Check the fuel tank level and open any fuel valves.

NOTE: The battery switch must always be kept ON while the engine is running. If the switch is turned OFF while the engine is running, the battery charging regulator could be ruined.

#### STARTING

- 1. Hold the Shutdown Bypass-Preheat switch in the ON position for 10 to 20 seconds before starting a cold engine. Holding the switch too long can burn out the glow plugs.
- 2. While holding the Shutdown Bypass-Preheat switch in the ON position, push the Engine Control switch to the START position.
- 3. As soon as the engine starts, release both switches. Do not crank the starter for more than 10 seconds consecutively. If the engine fails to start with the first attempt, be sure that it has stopped completely (stationary at least 30 seconds) before re-engaging.

#### OPERATING

- Check oil pressure often. Oil pressure must be above 15 PSI. Normal coolant temperature is 75 to 90°C (167 to 194°F). Check the AC voltage and frequency. If these deviate from normal levels, shut down the generator set and investigate.
- 2. Let the unit run unloaded for about 10 minutes for a warm-up period.
- 3. Add electrical load.

#### STOPPING

- 1. Cool down the engine by operating at low idle speed for 3 minutes.
- 2. Check the engine noise and oil pressure for abnormalities.
- 3. Remove electrical load from the generator set.
- 4. Turn the control switch to off.

#### **Operating Procedures**

#### SHUTDOWNS AND ALARMS

1. Generator sets have shutdown systems to stop the engine in the event of high water temperature or low oil pressure.

Other alarms and shutdowns are available as optional equipment.

NOTE: Do not rely on any shutdowns to the exclusion of careful gauge monitoring. Watching your gauges can prevent damage to the unit and dangerous power losses.

- 2. Do the following when your warning or shutdown system is activated:
  - a. Check the temperature gauge. **Industrial sets:** If above 230°F (110°C), shut off the engine immediately.
  - b. Use the Trouble Shooting Guide on page 24 to isolate the cause of the overheat.

#### CAUTION: Do not remove the water fill cap of an overheated engine. Escaping high temperature steam can cause severe burns. Allow the engine to cool and then remove the cap slowly using protective clothing.

c. Make repairs.

Restart your Industrial set after the temperature gauge registers below 225°F (107°C).

- d. Watch the temperature gauge regularly and turn off the unit if the temperature rises above 230°F (110°C) on Industrial sets. Repeat trouble shooting.
- 3. If shutdown is activated and the temperature gauge shows temperature within normal temperature range:
  - a. Check the engine crankcase oil level.
  - b. If the oil level is low, fill with recommended lubricating oil and restart. Watch the oil pressure gauge carefully and shut off the engine if it does not show a normal reading (20-60 PSI) after a few seconds of operation.
  - c. If the oil level is normal, DO NOT restart the engine. Call your dealer for assistance.

#### SPARE PARTS

- 1. ADE recommends that you keep the following spare parts on hand for field service. The parts are available from your local Northern Lights dealer.
- 2. All owners should have the following:
  - a. Primary and secondary fuel filter elements b. Oil filters
  - c. Air filter
  - d. Alternator belt
  - e. Thermostat and gaskets
  - f. Glow plug
  - g. Injector and washer
- 3. If your set is operating a long distance from a servicing dealer, add the following:
  - a. Complete set of injectors
  - b. Copper washers for injector change
  - c. Complete set of glow plugs
  - d. Fuel lift pump

#### **Servicing Schedule Chart**

The Servicing Schedule Chart below shows the service schedule required for proper maintenance of your generator set. More detailed coverage of each Service Point (SP) is listed on the page noted in the 'page' column.

#### DAILY:

- SP1 Check oil level in engine
- SP5 Check V-belt tension
- SP7 Check primary fuel filter
- SP13 Check coolant level
- SP18 Check electrolyte level in batteries

#### AFTER FIRST 50 HOURS:

- SP2/3 Change engine oil and filter
- SP6 Adjust valves

#### AFTER FIRST 100 HOURS:

SP2/3 Change engine oil and filter

#### EVERY 250 HOURS:

- SP2/3 Change engine oil and filter
- SP4 Check air cleaner

- SP8 Change primary fuel filter element
- SP9 Change secondary fuel filter
- SP16 Check radiator filler cap

#### EVERY 500 HOURS:

- SP11 Check injectors
- SP14 Check and flush cooling system
- SP19 Check state of charge of batteries

#### EVERY 1000 HOURS:

- SP6 Check valve clearances
- SP12 Check fuel injection pump
- SP16 Check and clean radiator

SERVICE POINT	PAGE	OPERATION		DAILY	50 Hours	250 Hours	500 Hours	1000 Hours	2500 Hours
		ENGINE:							
SP1	8 & 12	Check oil level		•					
SP2	12	Change engine oil	1) 4)		•	•			
SP3	12	Change lube oil filters	1) 4)		•	•			
SP4	13	Check air cleaner	1) 3) 6)			•			
SP5	13	Check V-belt tension	1) 3)	•					
SP6	13	Check valve clearances						•	
		FUEL SYSTEM:							
SP7	14	Check primary filter (Racor)	2)	•					
SP8	14	Change primary filter element (Racor)	2)				•		
SP9	14	Change secondary fuel filter	1) 2)				•		
SP10	15	Bleed the fuel system	2)						
SP11	17	Check injectors	1) 2) 5)					•	
SP12	17	Check fuel injection pump							•
		COOLING SYSTEM:							
SP13	17	Check coolant level		•					
SP14	18	Check and flush cooling system							•
SP16	18	Check and clean radiator fins						•	
		Check radiator filler cap				•			
		ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:							
SP18	19	Check electrolyte level in batteries	1) 3)	•					
SP19	19	Check condition of batteries with hydrometer	1) 3)			•			
		OUT OF SERVICE:							
SP20	19	Winterizing or out-of-service	2)						

1) Perform all maintenance once a year even if hour level has not been reached.

2) Whenever necessary.

3) More often if necessary.

4) After first 50 hours and at 100 hours.

5) Clean injection nozzles every 1500 hours.

6) Replace element every 1000 hours.

Service Record Notes

#### **LUBRICATION - GENERAL**

- 1. Use only clean, high quality lubricants stored in clean containers in a protected area.
- 2. These lubricants are acceptable:
  - a. API Service CC/CD/CE single viscosity oils.
  - b. API Service CC/CD/SF multi-viscosity oils.
- 3. Use the proper weight oil for your average operation temperature.

Air Temperature	Single Viscosity	Multi- Viscosity
Above 32°F (0°C)	SAE 30W	SAE 15-40W
-10 to 32°F (-23 to 0°C)	SAE 10W	SAE 10-30W
Below -10°F (-23°C)	SAE 5W	SAE 5-20W

#### Figure 4: Lube Oils

- Some increase in oil consumption may be expected when SAE 5W and SAE 5-20W oils are used. Check oil level frequently.
- 5. Never put additives or flushing oil in crankcase.

#### SP1. CHECKING OIL LEVEL

 Check the oil level in the crankcase with the dipstick. The oil level must be in the waffled area on the stick. Never allow the level to go below this area. Follow the lubrication recommendations above.

#### SP2. OIL CHANGES

- 1. The set is delivered with special break-in oil. Change the engine oil and oil filter after 50 hours of operation. Use Service CC 30 weight oil during the first 100 hours.
- 2. Change the oil and filter again at 100 hours using the oil recommended in Figure 4. After this, change oil and filter every 250 hours.
- 3. During intermittent cold weather operation, change oil every 100 hours or six weeks, whichever comes first.
- 4. Change oil at any seasonal change in temperature when a new viscosity of oil is required.
- 5. Change oil when engine is warm.
- 6. Dispose of waste oil in an approved manner.
- 7. Never use a flushing oil.
- 8. Loosen the clamp on the oil change tube. Remove cap. Drain oil. Replace the cap and tube.
- 9. Refill engine with recommended oil.
- 10. Engine capacity with new oil filter is: 3.3 quarts (3.1 liters)

#### SP3. CHANGING LUBE OIL FILTER

- 1. Change the lube oil filter every 250 hours.
- 2. Use a filter wrench to remove old filter. Dispose of filter in approved manner.
- 3. Make sure the gasket from the old filter is removed and discarded. Clean mount face.
- 4. Spread a thin film of engine oil on the rubber gasket on the new filter and screw it on nipple until gasket meets the sealing surface.
- Using hands only no wrench tighten filter one-half turn farther. Overtightening can do damage to filter housing.
- 6. Fill engine with recommended oil. Start engine and check for leakage. Stop engine, wait 3 minutes, and check oil level. Add additional oil if necessary.
- 7. The oil filter part numbers are: #24-08001 - NL673L2 and NL673L3 #24-02001 - NL673K and NL673L

#### SP4. AIR CLEANER

- 1. Inspect air cleaner every 250 hours. In dusty conditions, check more often.
- Industrial sets: the element cannot be cleaned. Replace it when necessary. Part number is: NL673K, L, L2, L3 – #24-27301
- 4. NOTE: Make absolutely sure no impurities enter the engine while changing the element. Do NOT run the engine with the air cleaner removed.

#### SP5. V-BELTS

- 1. Check the tension and wear on the V-belt daily.
- Use your thumb to press on the belt at the midpoint between the fan pulley and alternator pulley. The tension is correct if the belt can be depressed about 3/16 in. (5 mm).
- 3. If belt needs to be adjusted pivot the alternator (Figure 5) at the alternator mounting bolt by:
  - 1. Loosening the alternator tensioning arm bolt and the alternator mounting bolt.
  - 2. Then pivot the alternator at the mounting bolt toward the engine left or right side as required.
  - 3. Tighten the mounting bolt and the adjusting bolt.
  - 4. Recheck belt tension after tightening bolts and again after running the engine for five minutes at low idle.

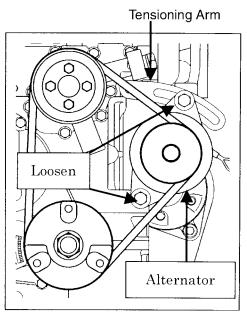
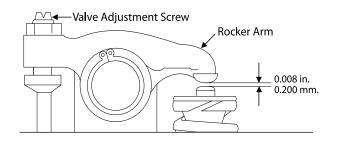
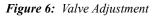


Figure 5: Belt Tension





#### SP6. VALVE CLEARANCES

- 1. Adjust valve clearance every 1000 hours, or as needed.
- 2. Valve adjustments should be done after the cylinder head bolts have been re-tightened. Engine should be cold and NOT running.
- 3. Watch the valves while turning the engine over by hand. Turn until the inlet valve starts to open and the exhaust valve starts to close (the valves are rocking). Then turn the crankshaft one more full turn and adjust the clearance on both valves for this cylinder.
- 4. Loosen the lock nut and adjust the clearance between the rocker arm and valve guide of both the intake and exhaust valves with the adjustment screw (Figure 6). Clearance on both intake and exhaust valves should be 0.008 in. (0.2 mm).
- 5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for each cylinder. Each set of valves must be adjusted individually.
- Replace the rocker arm cover. Tighten cover nuts to 5 - 8 ft/lbs (0.8 - 2.3 kg/m).

#### **FUELS - GENERAL**

- Use only clean, high quality fuels of the following specifications, as defined by ASTM designation D975 for diesel fuels:
  - a. Use grade no. 2 diesel at ambient temperatures above freezing 32°F (0°C).
  - b. Use grade no. 1 at ambient temperatures below freezing and for all temperatures at an altitude of above 5,500 ft. (1500 meters).
- 2. Use fuel having less that 1% sulphur (preferably less that 0.5%).
- 3. The cetane number should be a minimum of 45.
- 4. DO NOT use these unsuitable grades of fuel:
  - a. Domestic heating oils, all types.
  - b. Class B engine.
  - c. Class D domestic fuels.
  - d. Class E, F, G or H industrial or marine fuels.
  - e. ASTM-D975-60T No. 4-D and higher number fuels.
- 5. Storing fuel:
  - a. Keep dirt, scale, water, and other foreign matter out of fuel.
  - b. Avoid storing fuel for long periods of time.
  - c. Fill the fuel tank at the end of each day's operation. This will reduce condensation.

#### SP7-9. FUEL FILTERS

- 1. Your generator set should have a primary fuel filter installed. We recommend the Racor brand of fuel filter-water separators.
  - a. Check the primary fuel filter daily as recommended by the filter manufacturer. Empty the collection bowl as necessary.
  - b. Change the element as often as necessary or every 250 hours.
  - c. If the bowl fills with water, change the primary and secondary element immediately.
- 2. Change secondary fuel filter every 250 hours.
  - a. Remove the spin-on filter by turning it counterclockwise with a filter wrench. Fill the new cartridge with fuel and install it after applying engine oil to gasket surface. Screw on until the gasket surface comes into contact with sealing surface of filter base. Then, tighten it two-thirds of a turn by hand. Do not overtighten.
  - b. The fuel filter part number is: NL673K, L, L2, L3 - #24-52020

#### SP10. BLEEDING THE FUEL SYSTEM



CAUTION: Escaping diesel fuel under pressure can penetrate skin causing serious personal injury. Before disconnecting lines be sure to relieve all pressure. Before applying pressure, be sure all connections are tight and lines, pipes and hoses aren't damaged. Fuel escaping from a very small hole can be almost invisible. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, rather than hands, to search for suspected leaks. If injured by escaping fuel, see a doctor at once. Serious infection or reaction can develop if proper medical treatment isn't administered immediately.

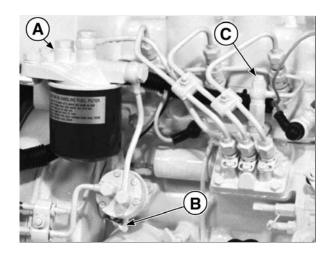


Figure 7: 673 Fuel System.

- 1. The fuel system is self-bleeding. However, any system may need manual bleeding when:
  - a. A new fuel filter is installed;
  - b. The engine has run out of fuel;
  - c. The fuel lines, injection pump or any other fuel system component has been removed and installed.
- 2. Loosen bleed screw "A" (Figure 7) on top of the filter. Pump hand primer "B" on fuel lift pump until pure fuel (no bubbles) escapes from bleed screw "A". Tighten bleed screw "A".
- 3. Loosen bleed screw "C". Pump hand primer "B" on fuel lift pump until pure fuel (no bubbles) escapes from bleed screw "A".
- 4. If the engine does not start after the above bleeding process, loosen a fuel line at the injector. Crank the engine until pure fuel escapes, then tighten the connection. Do each line **one at a time.**
- 5. After the engine has started, check for fuel leaks using a piece of cardboard.



Figure 8: Remove delivery line flare nuts.

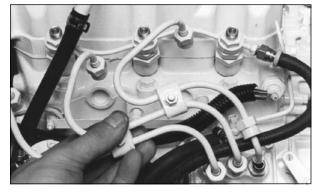


Figure 9: Remove delivery lines.



Figure 10: Remove return line nuts.



Figure 11: Remove return line.

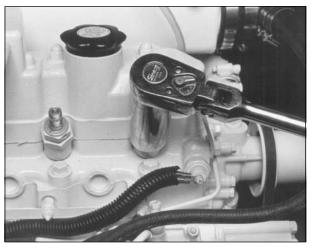


Figure 12: Unscrew injector.



Figure 13: Remove and replace copper sealing washer.



Figure 14: Reinstall injector. Torque to proper tightness.

#### SP11. INJECTOR SERVICE

 Injectors should be checked every 1000 hours. Check should be made by a Northern Lights dealer or local injection repair station.



CAUTION: Escaping diesel fuel under pressure can have sufficient force to penetrate the skin causing serious personal injury. If injured by escaping diesel fuel, see a doctor at once.

- 2. Injector removal:
  - a. Clean loose dirt from around the injectors and the fuel lines.
  - b. Relieve high pressure in the fuel lines by loosening the delivery line flare nuts at each injector (Figure 8).
  - c. Remove delivery lines by disconnecting from injectors and injection pump (Figure 9). Remove all lines as an assembly; do not remove the spacers. Cover the ends of the lines, the injector inlets and injection pump outlets to keep dirt out.
  - d. Remove the return line retaining bolts (Figure 10). Remove the return line (Figure 11).
  - e. Unscrew and remove the injectors (Figure 12). NOTE: Do not use pry bars to remove injectors from cylinder head.
  - f. After removing the injectors, discard the copper sealing washers from the injector hole in the head (Figure 13). Cover holes to prevent dirt and debris from entering the cylinders.

#### 3. Injector installation:

- a. Install a new copper sealing washer in each injector hole (Figure 13).
- b. Screw in injector and tighten to 43 or 50 ft/lbs (6 to 7 kgm) (Figure 14).

#### NOTE: Overtightening can damage injector.

- c. Install return line using new copper sealing above and below each connection. Tighten return line retaining bolts to 22 - 30 ft/lbs.
- d. Install delivery lines. Leave loose at injectors for bleeding.
- e. Pump hand level on fuel pump to fill lines. Tighten lines at injectors. Start engine and check for leaks using a piece of paper or cardboard. **DO NOT use hand to check for leaks.**

#### SP12. INJECTION PUMP

- Since operating conditions may vary considerably, it is difficult to give a definite interval for checking the injection pump. But as a rule, pump settings, maximum speed, idle speed and exhaust smoke should be checked after every 2500 hours of operation. Service of the fuel injection pump should only be done if checks indicate pump malfunction.
- 2. Black smoke can be an indication of pump malfunction. Before servicing the pump, check other possible causes:
  - a. Check cleanliness of air filter.
  - b. Check valve clearances.
  - c. Clean and check injectors.
- 3. Any repair which involves disassembly of the injection pump must be carried out by specially trained mechanics with the proper tools and test equipment.

NOTE: All warranties on the engine become null and void if the injection pump seals are broken by unauthorized persons.

#### **COOLING SYSTEM - GENERAL**

CAUTION: The cooling water in the engine reaches extremely high temperatures. You must use extreme caution when working on hot engines to avoid burns. Allow the engine to cool before working on the cooling system. Open the filler cap carefully, using protective clothing when the engine is warm.

#### SP13. CHECK THE COOLANT LEVEL

1. Check the coolant level each day before starting the engine. Check the water level by removing the pressure cap from the radiator.

In order to give the cooling water an opportunity to expand, the level should be about 1 in. (2.5 cm) below the filler cap sealing surface when the engine is cold.

2. The pressure valve in the filler cap releases when the pressure is approximately 7 PSI (0.5 bar). Use a cap pressure tester to check cap if you suspect it is faulty.

#### SP14. COOLING SYSTEM FLUSHING

- 1. Flush the cooling system every 2500 hours or every 12 months, whichever comes first.
- 2. Industrial sets:

Remove radiator cap and open drain cocks on radiator and engine block. Pour clean water into radiator until water coming from radiator is clear of discoloration. Close the radiator drain and continue flushing until water from engine drain is clear. Open all drain cocks and drain completely. Close drain cock and refill with recommended coolant mixture. Clean fins on radiator.

3. Coolant Specifications:

Use 50% water / 50% ethylene glycol antifreeze mix. Antifreeze mixture is recommended as a good year-round coolant.

4. Check hoses and connections and repair any leakage.

#### SP16. CLEAN RADIATOR

- 1. Remove debris from radiator fins daily.
- 2. In very dusty applications, clean the radiator with compressed air or steam cleaner every 100 hours. Clean in the reverse direction of the airflow.

#### **ELECTRICAL SYSTEM - GENERAL**

- 1. Never switch battery switch off or break the circuit between the alternator and batteries while the engine is running. Regulator damage can result.
- 2. Do NOT reverse the polarity of battery cables when installing the battery.
- 3. When welding on the unit, disconnect the regulator and battery. Isolate the leads.
- 4. Disconnect the battery cables when servicing the D.C. alternator.
- 5. Never test with a screwdriver, etc., against any terminal to see if it emits sparks.
- 6. Do not polarize the alternator or regulator.
- 7. A D.C. circuit breaker protects your control panel and wiring harness. It is located in the side of the generator junction box.

#### **GLOW PLUGS**

- 1. Each cylinder is supplied with a glow plug which serves to heat the combustion chamber.
- 2. To check the glow plugs, loosen the current carrying flat wire between the plus-poles of the glow plugs (Figure 15). Connect a D.C. test bulb between the plus-pole of the battery and the plus-pole of the glow plug. If the bulb lights up, the glow plug is functioning properly.
- 3. Check all glow plugs and replace any faulty ones.

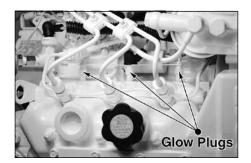
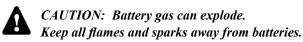
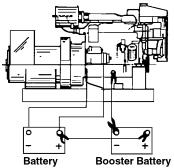


Figure 15: Glow plugs.

#### **BOOSTER BATTERIES**



- Before changing or using booster batteries, check battery electrolyte level. Add distilled water if necessary.
- 2. Booster and main batteries must have the same voltage rating.
- First, connect positive (+) terminal of booster battery to positive (+) terminal of main battery. Then, connect negative (-) terminal of booster battery to ground on the engine block (see Figure 16).
- 4. Remove booster battery after starting engine.
- 5. Sealed batteries: See manufacturer charging and booster instructions.



*Figure 16: Battery connections.* 

#### SP 18-19. BATTERY CARE

- 1. Check electrolyte level daily. Add distilled water to manufacturer's recommended level.
- Batteries, cables and cable terminals should be checked and cleaned every 100 hours. Clean corrosion with a water and baking soda solution. Flush with clean water. Tighten terminals and grease them to inhibit corrosion.
- 3. Check the battery condition with a hydrometer every 250 hours.

#### SP20. WINTERIZING / OUT-OF-SERVICE

- 1. Industrial sets:
  - a. Drain and flush the radiator and cooling system. Leave dry or refill with antifreeze-water mixture. If refilling, start the engine and run to circulate the antifreeze.
  - b. Fill the fuel tank or add biocide as per manufacturer's instructions.
  - c. Seal the air cleaner inlet, exhaust opening, crankcase breather pipe, and fuel tank vent with plastic bags and tape.
  - d. Store the set in a dry, protected place. If unit must be stored outside, be sure it is well protected with a cover.
  - e. Change the crankcase oil and filter.
  - f. Loosen the alternator belt.
  - g. Disconnect and clean battery. Remove to warm storage place if possible.
  - h. Clean outside of unit. Paint any scratched or chipped surfaces. Put corrosion preventative on all exposed metal surfaces.

#### GENERAL

- 1. A Generator Set includes the engine, the generator, and the control or "J" box (Figure 17).
- 2. The generator and the control or "J" box produce the electrical power.
- 3. Generator excitation is provided by activation of the pre-heat circuit and electrical output voltage is controlled by the automatic voltage regulator (AVR) located in the control box (Figure 19, Item 2).

#### **GENERATOR** (Figure 18)

- 1. Stator Core
- 2. Stator Coil
- 3. End Cover
- 4. Brush
- 5. Ball Bearing
- 6. Slip Ring
- 7. Frame
- 8. Coupling Plate
- 9. Field Coil
- 10. Field Core
- 11. Shaft
- 12. Ventilation Cover

#### CONTROL BOX (Figure 19)

- 1. Control Terminal Board
- 2. Automatic Voltage Regulator (AVR)
- 3. 12 Volt DC Circuit Breaker
- 4. AC Circuit Breaker
- 5. AVR Circuit Breaker
- 6. Output Terminal Board

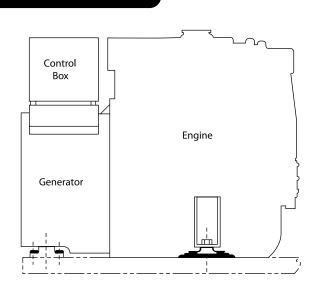


Figure 17: Composition.

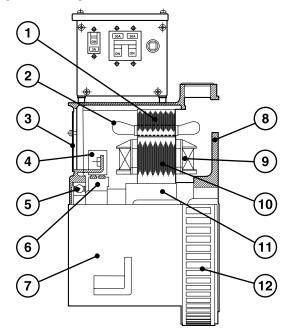


Figure 18: Generator Components.

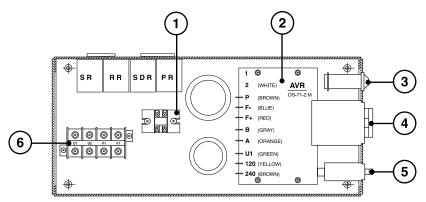


Figure 19: Control Box Components.

#### CONNECTIONS

- 1. 120 Volt Output:
  - a. 120 volt output can be selected by connecting the terminals of the control terminal board to 120 (Figure 20).

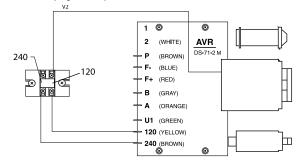


Figure 20: Control Terminal Board, 120 Volt Output

b. Connect U1 to U2 and V1 to V2 on the output terminal board (Figure 21). Connect 120 volt output leads to terminals U1 and V2.

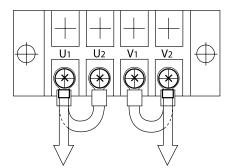
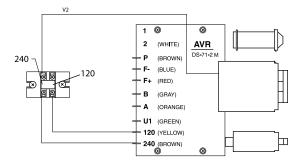
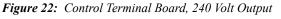


Figure 21: Output Terminal Board, 120 Volt Output

- 2. 240 Volt Output:
  - a. 240 volt output can be selected by connecting the terminals of the control terminal board to 240 (Figure 22).





b. Connect U2 to V1 on the output terminal board (Figure 23).

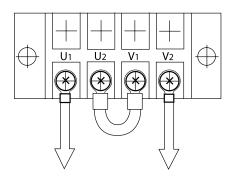


Figure 23: Output Terminal Board, 240 Volt Output

- 3. 120/240 Volt Output
  - a. Connect the control terminal board for 240 volts (Figure 24).

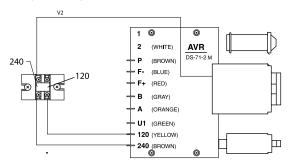


Figure 24: Control Terminal Board, 120/240 Volt Output

b. Connect U2 and V1 on the output board (Figure 25). Connect output leads to U1 and V2 and neutral lead to V1 (or U2). 240 volt output is available from the leads connected to U1 and V2. The 120 volt load should be divided as equally as possible between two 120 volt circuits.

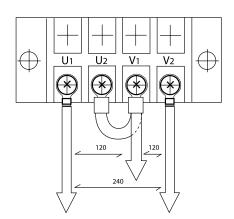


Figure 25: Output Terminal Board, 120/240 Volt Output

#### OPERATION

In order to ensure a long, trouble-free life, the generator must be operated properly and the specified maintenance must be performed.

#### **OPERATING ENVIRONMENT**

Always keep electrical equipment clean. Moisture, salt, dust, and oil will damage the generator. The operating environment must be kept as clean and moisture free as possible.

#### VENTILATION

Good ventilation is important for proper generator operation. When installing the generator set, be sure the ambient temperature does not exceed 40°C (104°F) during operation.

#### MAINTENANCE

Proper and effective maintenance is required to ensure trouble-free operation. In addition to the above items, the following are required:

- 1. Periodically check all bolts and nuts for proper torque. This is especially true for coupling bolts.
- 2. Be sure to keep the generator area clean and dry.
  - a. Dust and foreign material may reduce the flow of cooling air, reducing heat dissipation and causing the generator to overheat.
    - b. If electrically conductive debris accumulates on the windings, or if moisture or salt water are absorbed into the windings, the windings may short or ground, reducing voltage output.
    - c. Wiping is the only effective method for removing dust and foreign materials. Use a clean, lint-free piece of cloth.
- If the generator has not been operated for an extended period of time, check the insulation resistance of each stator coil and the rotor. Disconnect the AVR from the generator when performing this test.

- 4. Voltage Adjustment
  - a. If there is some voltage, but it does not build up to rated voltage, voltage adjustment can be made using the "hand trimmer" in the AVR (Figure 26).
  - b. The normal voltage setting at no load is 121 volts at 62 Hertz or 242 volts at 62 Hertz.

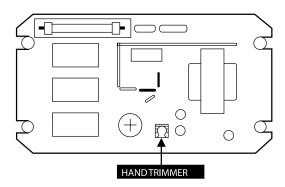


Figure 26: Hand Trimmer Location on AVR.

- 5. Check the ball bearing in the generator end. a. Listen for unusual noise.
  - b. Abnormal temperature rise can be noted by discoloration.
  - c. If the bearing is failing, it must be replaced.
  - d. Generator bearing should be replaced by your Northern Lights dealer at 10,000 hours.
- 6. Check the brushes
  - a. The carbon brushes gradually wear with use, so they must be inspected periodically and replaced as necessary.
  - b. If the brushes are excessively worn as to expose the pigtail (Figure 27), sparking will occur at the surface of the slip ring, causing surface damage. Therefore, periodic inspection of the brushes is important.
  - c. Normally, the brushes will have to be replaced with a new brush assembly within 3,000 hours.

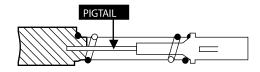


Figure 27: Brush Pigtail.

- 7. Replacing Brushes
  - a. Shut down the generator. Remove four screws and end cover of the generator.
  - b. Brush assembly is white plastic with two wires leading to it. It is located at ten o'clock and is held in position by two screws (Figure 28).
     Remove the screws and unplug leads.

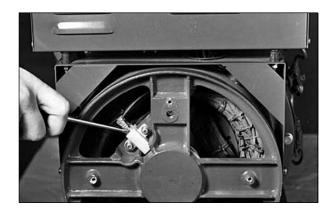


Figure 28: Brush Location.

c. Attach leads to new brush assembly and install it with the plastic ears towards the front of the generator.

*NOTE:* Be sure to connect wire J to terminal J, and connect wire K to terminal K.

8. Generator Protection

To protect the generator and AVR from unbalanced loads and over loads, two 20 amp breakers are placed in the output circuit and one 3 amp breaker is placed in the AVR sensing circuit (Figure 29).

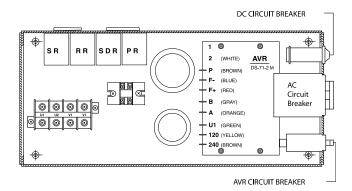


Figure 29: Breaker Locations.

- 9. Parts: See Parts Book for complete list
  - a. Bearing
  - Part #22-68305
  - b. Brush assembly Part #22-68304
- 10. Test Specifications: See Wiring Diagram(s)
  - a. Resistance of J-K
    - 16.6 ohm at 20°C (68°F)
  - b. Resistance of A-B
     0.25 ohm at 20°C (68°F)
  - c. Resistance of U1-V2
     0.56 ohm at 20°C (68°F)
  - d. No load voltage setting
    242V or 121V at 62 Hz with cold generator

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)
Battery Will Not Charge	Loose or corroded connections	• Clean and tighten battery connections.
	Sulfated or worn out batteries	<ul><li>Check specific gravity of each battery.</li><li>Check electrolyte level of each battery.</li></ul>
	Loose or defective alternator belt	<ul><li> Adjust belt tension.</li><li> Replace belt.</li></ul>
Starter Inoperative	Check DC circuit breaker	• If the breaker is tripped, reset it.
	Loose or corroded connections	<ul> <li>Clean and tighten loose battery and harness plug connection.</li> </ul>
	Low battery output	<ul><li>Check specific gravity of each battery.</li><li>Check electrolyte level of each battery.</li></ul>
	Defective electrical system ground wire:	• Repair or replace.
Starter Cranks Slowly	Low battery output	<ul><li>Battery is too small.</li><li>Battery cables are too small.</li></ul>
	Check specific gravity of each battery	• Replace battery if necessary.
	Check electrolyte level of each battery	• If low, fill cells with distilled water.
	Crankcase oil too heavy	• Fill with oil of appropriate viscosity.
	Loose or corroded connections	• Clean and tighten loose connections.
Entire Electrical System	Check DC circuit breaker	• If breaker is tripped, reset it.
Does Not Function	Faulty connection	• Clean and tighten battery and harness plug connections.
	Sulfated or worn out batteries	• Check specific gravity and electrolyte level of each battery.
	Dead Battery	• Charge battery.

If you cannot correct problems with these procedures, see your Northern Lights dealer.

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)
Engine Hard to Start or Will Not Start	Improper starting procedure	• See starting section of this manual. Take special note of Bypass Switch operation.
	No fuel	• Check level of fuel in fuel tank.
	Low battery output	• Check electrolyte level and condition.
	Excessive resistance in starting circuit	• Clean and tighten all battery connections.
	Crankcase oil too heavy	• Use oil of proper viscosity.
	Improper type of fuel	• Consult fuel supplier and use proper type of fuel for operating condition.
	Water, dirt or air in fuel system	• Drain, flush, fill and bleed system.
	Clogged primary or secondary fuel filter element	• Clean or replace primary filter element, replace secondary filter element.
	Dirty or faulty injection nozzles	• Have your dealer check injection nozzles.
	Fuel injected but no ignition	<ul><li>Glow plug malfunction.</li><li>Injection timing not correct.</li><li>Low cylinder compression pressure.</li></ul>
Engine Runs Irregularly	Below normal engine temperature	• Remove and check thermostat.
or Stalls Frequently	Clogged primary or secondary fuel filter element	• Clean or replace primary filter element, replace secondary filter element.
	Water or dirt in the fuel system	• Drain, flush, fill and bleed system.
	Dirty or faulty injection nozzles	• Have your dealer check injection nozzles.
	Air in fuel system	• Inspect clamps and hoses on suction side of fuel pump for air leak.
	Improper type of fuel	• Consult fuel supplier and use proper type of fuel for operating condition.
	Low idle, not stable	• Uneven compression cylinders.
Lack of Engine Power	Intake air restriction	Service air cleaner.
-	Clogged primary or secondary fuel filter element	• Clean or replace primary filter element, replace secondary filter element.
	Improper type of fuel	• Consult fuel supplier and use proper type fuel for operating conditions.
	Overheated engine	• See "Engine Overheats" in next category.
	Below normal engine temperature	• Remove and check thermostat.
	Improper valve clearance	• Reset valves. Best done by dealer.
	Dirty or faulty injection nozzles	<ul><li>Replace injectors. Best done by dealer.</li><li>See your local dealer.</li></ul>

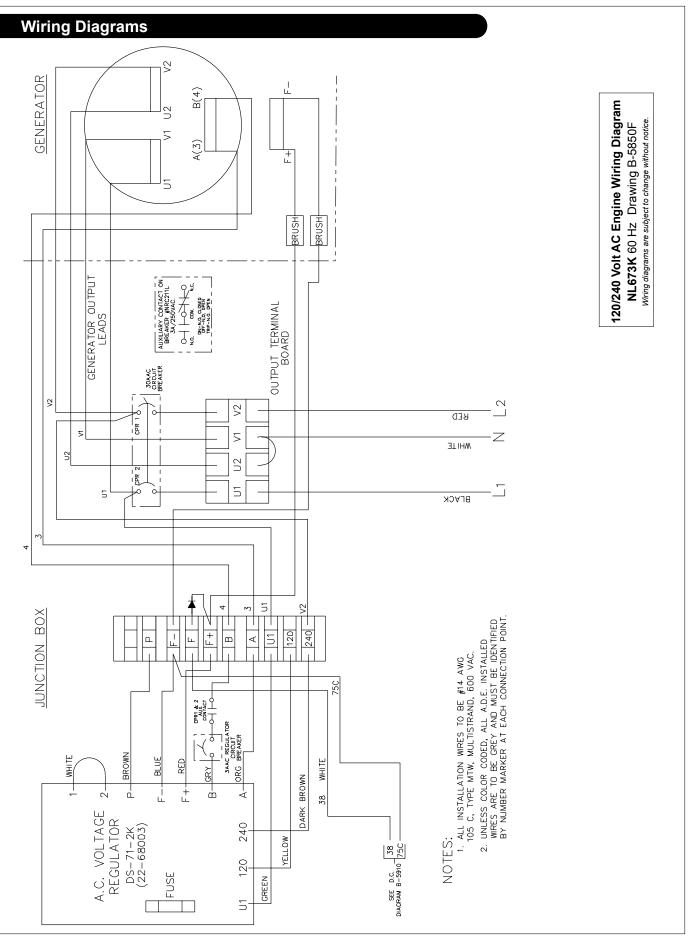
ΕN	GINE

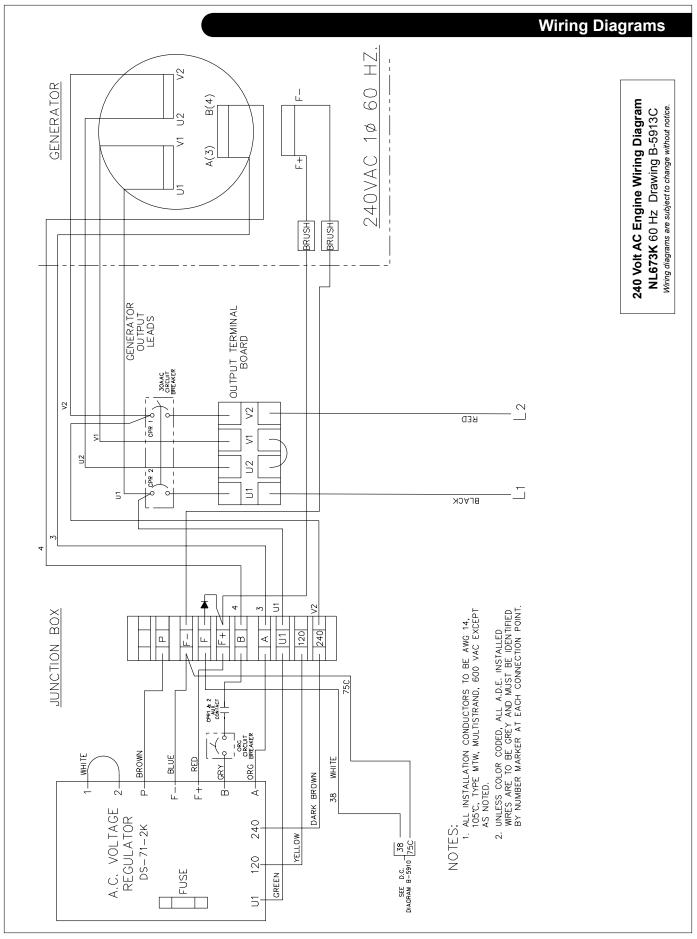
PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)
Lack of Engine Power (continued)	Cylinder compression pressure low, cylinder compression pressure leakage	<ul><li>Adjust valve clearance.</li><li>Adjust nozzle holder alignment.</li><li>Check cylinder bore wear.</li></ul>
Engine Overheats	Low coolant level or cooling system defective	<ul> <li>Fill tank or radiator to proper level.</li> <li>Check hoses for loose connections and leaks.</li> <li>Fan belt slipping.</li> </ul>
	Cooling system needs flushing	• Flush cooling system.
	Defective thermostat	• Remove and check thermostat.
	Defective temperature gauge	• Check water temperature with thermometer and replace gauge if necessary.
	V belts slipping	• Fix belts to proper tension.
Engine Knocks	Insufficient oil	• Call your dealer.
	Injection pump out of time	• Call your dealer.
	Below normal engine temperature	<ul><li>Check your thermostats.</li><li>Check water temperature to see if temperature gauge is working properly.</li></ul>
	Engine overheating	• See "Engine Overheating" section.
High Fuel Consumption	Improper type of fuel	• Use correct fuel for temperature.
	Clogged or dirty air cleaner	Service air cleaner.
	Improper valve clearance	• See your dealer.
	Injection nozzles dirty	• See your dealer.
	Injection pump timing off	• See your dealer.
	Engine overloaded	Check load usage.
	Engine not at proper temperature	<ul><li>Check your thermostats.</li><li>Check water temperature with thermometer and replace gauge if necessary.</li></ul>
Below Normal	Thermostats not working properly	• Check thermostats.
Engine Temperature	Temperature gauge not working properly	• Check water temperature with thermometer

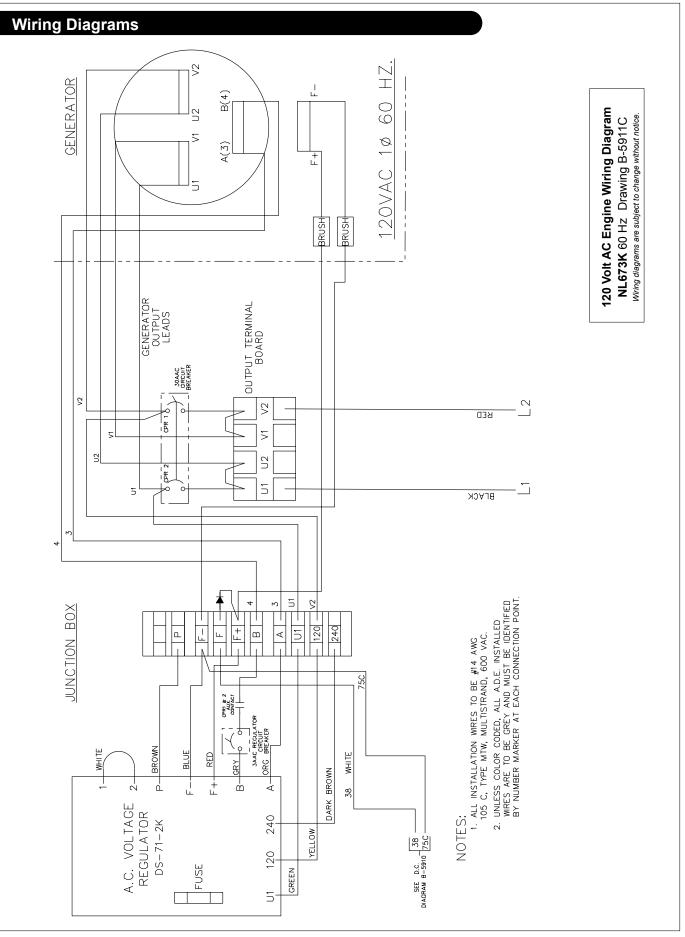
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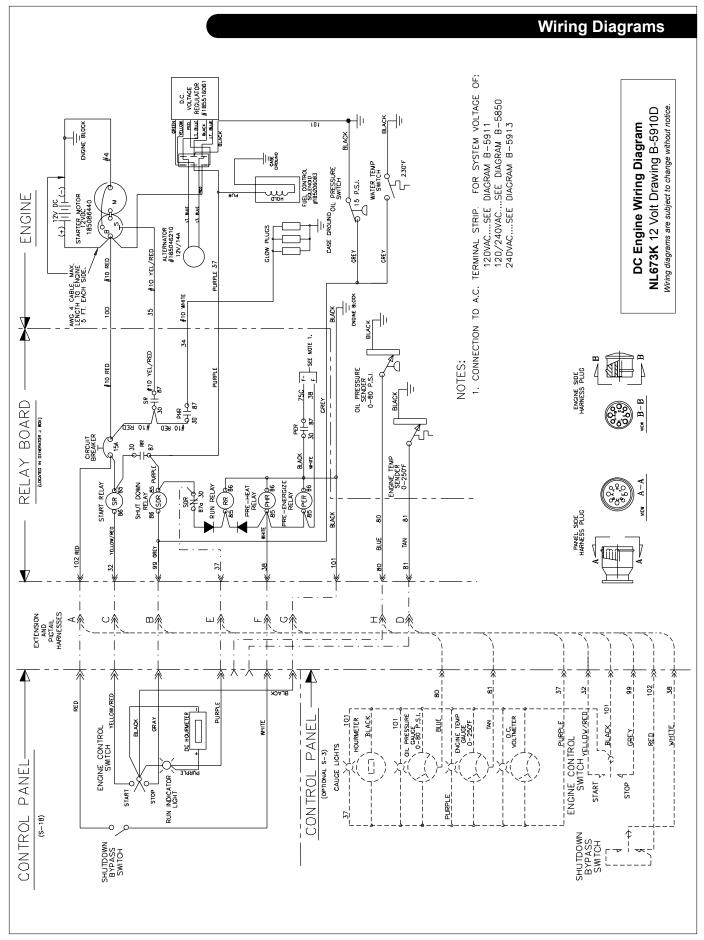
PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)	
Low Oil Pressure	Low oil level	• Fill crankcase to proper level.	
	Clogged filter and strainer or worn bearings and oil pump	• Repair or replace.	
	Improper type of oil	• Drain and fill crankcase with correct oil.	
	Partially plugged oil filter	• Replace filter.	
High Oil Consumption	Break-in period	• Oil consumption decreases after break in	
	Crankcase oil too light	• Use proper viscosity oil.	
	Oil leaks	• Check for leaks in lines around gaskets and drain plug.	
Engine Emits Black or Gray Exhaust Smoke	Clogged or dirty air cleaner	• Service air cleaner.	
	Defective muffler (back pressure too high)	• Have dealer check back pressure.	
	Improper fuel	• Use correct fuel for temperature.	
	Injection nozzles dirty	• See your dealer.	
	Engine injection timing off	• See your dealer.	
Engine Emits White Smoke	Improper fuel	• Use correct fuel for temperature.	
	Cold engine	• Warm up engine to normal operating temperature.	
	Defective thermostat	• Remove and check thermostat.	
	Engine injection timing off	• See your dealer.	

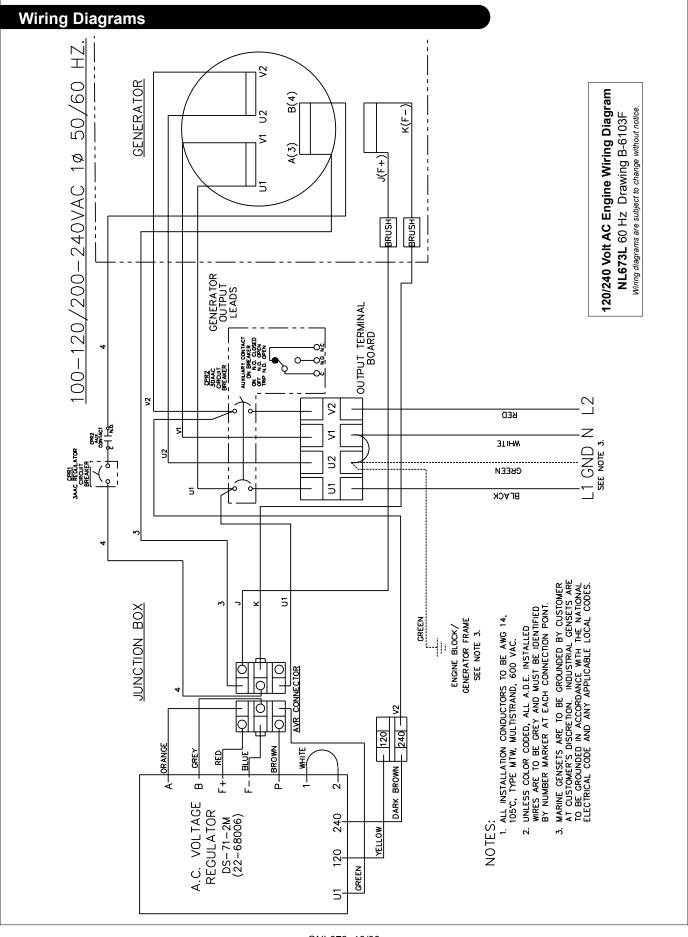
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